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POLAND: JARUZELSKI ADDRESSES NATION ON MARTIAL LAW

TAKE 1

13130822 WARSAW DOMESTIC SERVICE IN POLISH 0501 GMT 13 DEC 81

(13 DECEMBER ADDRESS TO THE NATION BY PREMIER WOJCIECH
JARUZELSKI--RECORDED)

(TEXT) CITIZENS OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. I TURN TO YOU
TODAY AS A SOLDIER AND AS THE HEAD OF THE POLISH GOVERNMENT. I
TURN TO YOU IN MATTERS OF SUPREME IMPORTANCE. OUR COUNTRY HAS
FOUND ITSELF AT THE EDGE OF AN ABYSS. THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MANY
GENERATIONS, THE HOUSE ERECTED FROM POLISH ASHES, IS BEING RUINED.
THE STRUCTURES OF THE STATE ARE CEASING TO FUNCTION. NEW BLOWS
ARE BEING STRUCK EVERY DAY AT THE DYING ECONOMY. OUR LIVING
CONDITIONS ARE IMPOSING ON PEOPLE AN INCREASINGLY GREATER
BURDEN. LINES OF PAINFUL DIVISION ARE RUNNING THROUGH EVERY WORK
ENTERPRISE AND THROUGH MANY POLISH HOMES. THE ATMOSPHERE OF ENDLESS
CONFLICTS, OF MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND OF HATRED IS SOWING
PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVASTATION AND INJURING THE TRADITIONS OF
TOLERANCE. STRIKES, STRIKE READINESS AND PROTEST ACTIONS HAVE
BECOME THE NORM. EVEN SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE BEING DRAGGED INTO IT.

YESTERDAY EVENING MANY PUBLIC BUILDINGS WERE OCCUPIED. EXHORTATIONS FOR A PHYSICAL SETTLEMENT OF ACCOUNTS WITH THE "REDS," WITH PEOPLE WHO HOLD DIFFERENT VIEWS, ARE BEING MADE. ACTS OF TERRORISM, THREATS, MOB TRIALS AND ALSO ACTS OF DIRECT COERCION ARE ABOUND. THE WAVE OF IMPUDENT CRIMES, OF ASSAULTS AND BREAKINGS IS SWEEPING THE COUNTRY. FORTUNES AMOUNTING TO MILLIONS ARE BEING ACCRUED BY ECONOMIC UNDERGROUND SHARKS AND ARE GROWING. CHAOS AND DEMORALIZATION HAVE ASSUMED THE PROPORTIONS OF A DISASTER.

THE NATION HAS COME TO THE END OF ITS PSYCHOLOGICAL ENDURANCE. MANY PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO DESPAIR. NOW IT IS NOT DAYS BUT HOURS THAT SEPARATE US FROM A NATIONAL CATASTROPHE. HONESTY COMPELS ONE TO ASK THE QUESTION: DID THINGS HAVE TO COME TO THIS?

IN ASSUMING THE OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, I BELIEVED THAT WE COULD LIFT OURSELVES UP. HAVE WE DONE EVERYTHING TO STOP THE SPIRAL OF THE CRISIS? HISTORY WILL JUDGE OUR ACTIONS. THERE HAVE BEEN ERRORS, AND WE ARE DRAWING CONCLUSIONS FROM THEM. ABOVE ALL, HOWEVER, THE PAST MONTHS HAVE BEEN A BUSY TIME FOR THE GOVERNMENT, A TIME OF WRESTLING WITH ENORMOUS DIFFICULTIES.

UNFORTUNATELY, HOWEVER, THE NATIONAL ECONOMY HAS BEEN TURNED INTO AN ARENA FOR POLITICAL STRUGGLE. A DELIBERATE TORPEDOING OF GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES HAS BROUGHT ABOUT A SITUATION IN WHICH RESULTS ARE NOT COMMENSURATE WITH OUR EFFORTS. WE CANNOT BE SAID TO LACK GOOD WILL, MODERATION AND PATIENCE. SOMETIMES THERE HAS BEEN, PERHAPS, EVEN TOO MUCH OF IT. ONE CANNOT FAIL TO NOTICE THE RESPECT FOR SOCIAL AGREEMENTS DISPLAYED BY THE GOVERNMENT. WE HAVE GONE EVEN FURTHER. THE INITIATIVE OF THE GREAT NATIONAL ACCORD WON THE SUPPORT OF MILLIONS OF POLES. IT CREATED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM TO BECOME MORE DEEPLY ROOTED AND FOR THE RANGE OF REFORMS TO BE BROADENED. THESE HOPES HAVE BEEN FRUSTRATED.

THE SOLIDARITY LEADERSHIP WAS NOT PRESENT AT THE COMMON TABLE. THE WORDS UTTERED IN RADOM AND AT THE SESSION IN GDANSK HAVE COMPLETELY UNMASKED THE TRUE INTENTIONS OF ITS LEADING BODIES. THESE INTENTIONS ARE CONFIRMED ON A MASS SCALE BY DAILY PRACTICE, BY THE MOUNTING AGGRESSIVENESS OF EXTREMISTS, BY AN OPEN STRIVING FOR A COMPLETE PARTITION OF THE SOCIALIST POLISH STATE. HOW LONG CAN ONE WAIT FOR A SOBERING UP? HOW LONG CAN A HAND STRETCHED OUT TOWARD ACCORD MEET WITH A CLOSED FIST? HOW LONG CAN ONE WAIT WITH A HEAVY HEART, WITH IMMENSE BITTERNESS.

THINGS COULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT IN OUR COUNTRY; THEY SHOULD BE DIFFERENT. THE CONTINUATION OF THE CURRENT STATE COULD INEVITABLY LEAD TO A CATASTROPHE, TO COMPLETE CHAOS, TO POVERTY AND FAMINE. SEVERE WINTER CONDITIONS COULD MULTIPLY LOSSES AND ENGULF NUMEROUS VICTIMS, ESPECIALLY AMONG THE WEAKEST, WHOM WE WANT TO PROTECT MOST.

IN THIS SITUATION IDLENESS WOULD BE A CRIME AGAINST THE NATION. IT IS NECESSARY TO SAY "ENOUGH," TO BLOCK THE PATH TO CONFRONTATION, WHICH SOLIDARITY LEADERS HAVE OPENLY ANNOUNCED. WE MUST MAKE IT CLEAR TODAY AS THE DATE APPROACHES FOR THE MASS POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS, INCLUDING IN THE CENTER OF WARSAW, WHICH HAVE BEEN CALLED IN CONNECTION WITH THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DECEMBER EVENTS, THAT TRAGEDY MUST NOT RECUR. ONE MUST NOT--WE HAVE NO RIGHT TO--ALLOW THE ANNOUNCED DEMONSTRATIONS TO BECOME A SPARK WHICH SETS THE ENTIRE COUNTRY ALIGHT.

(MORE)

13 DEC 0919Z JA/TN